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TEXAS
LABOR MARKET REVIEW

TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION | APRIL 1990 | AUSTIN, TX 78778

TEXAS ECONOMY IMPROVES MODERATELY

Unemployment Rate Drops

The Statewide actual unemployment rate declined to its lowest level in over five years in March 1990. The current rate of 5.7 percent was substantially below the February rate and also lower than the March 1989 rate of 6.4 percent. The last time the actual rate was below 5.7 percent was in December 1984, when Texas had a rate of 5.6 percent. Total unemployment dropped by over 100,000 between February and March 1990 and was over 50,000 below the year-ago level. Total employment in Texas rose by just over 86,000 in March, totaling 7,874,000—up by 119,100 from the March 1989 estimate. Of the total employed, an estimated 215,500 were agricultural workers, according to the Current Population Survey estimates for March.

The seasonally adjusted rate for Texas also declined significantly over the month, from 6.4 percent in February to 5.6 percent in March. This rate was well under the 6.3 percent rate recorded for March 1989. The U. S. rates in both series decreased slightly over the month, but were somewhat higher than the year-ago rates. In the actual series, the rate dropped from 5.8 percent in February to 5.4 percent in March, compared to 5.2 percent a year earlier. The seasonally adjusted rate also slid downward, from 5.3 percent to 5.2 percent in March, slightly above the 5.0 percent in March 1989.

This month marked the second time thus far in 1990 that the Texas rate in the actual series has been either below or within a half percentage point of the U. S. rate in the actual series [see **Chart** on page 3].

Nonfarm Jobs Growth Slows

Employers in Texas generated over 15,000 additional jobs between February and March, bringing total **Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment** to 6,895,800 in mid-March. The current estimate was 126,100 above the year-ago level. Although the number of nonfarm salaried jobs exhibited some growth over the month, it was not as noteworthy as the gain shown for the same period in 1989, when 48,000 jobs were

[continued on page 3] ☞

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
(In Thousands)

	Mar.'90	Feb.'90	Mar.'89
UNITED STATES (ACTUAL)			
Labor Force	123,790.0	123,442.0	122,222.0
Unemployment	6,697.0	7,134.0	6,378.0
Percent Unemployed	5.4%	5.8%	5.2%
Total Employment	117,093.0	116,308.0	115,844.0
UNITED STATES (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)			
Labor Force	124,829.0	124,629.0	123,245.0
Unemployment	6,495.0	6,594.0	6,198.0
Percent Unemployed	5.2%	5.3%	5.0%
Total Employment	118,334.0	118,035.0	117,047.0
STATE OF TEXAS (ACTUAL)			
Labor Force	8,346.5	8,375.4	8,285.8
Unemployment	472.5	587.5	530.9
Percent Unemployed	5.7%	7.0%	6.4%
Total Employment	7,874.0	7,787.9	7,754.9
STATE OF TEXAS (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)			
Labor Force	8,447.0	8,494.0	8,385.0
Unemployment	470.0	545.0	528.0
Percent Unemployed	5.6%	6.4%	6.3%
Total Employment	7,977.0	7,949.0	7,857.0

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES ✚
TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

	MAR.'90*	FEB.'90**	MAR.'89**	MAR.'90*	FEB.'90**	MAR.'89**	MAR.'90*	FEB.'90**	MAR.'89**
	ABILENE			AMARILLO			AUSTIN		
Total Civilian Labor Force	51,600	51,800	52,500	94,300	93,700	96,500	427,900	428,100	426,400
Total Unemployment	2,600	3,300	3,200	4,800	5,600	5,100	17,600	20,600	21,300
Percent Unemployed	5.0%	6.4%	6.1%	5.1%	6.0%	5.3%	4.1%	4.8%	5.0%
Total Employment ++	49,000	48,500	49,300	89,500	88,100	91,400	410,300	407,500	405,100
	BEAUMONT-PORT ARTHUR			BRAZORIA			BROWNSVILLE-HARLINGEN		
Total Civilian Labor Force	160,000	160,900	161,600	84,500	84,700	83,900	106,200	106,700	101,900
Total Unemployment	11,000	13,300	13,800	4,300	5,400	5,300	11,500	14,200	11,200
Percent Unemployed	6.9%	8.3%	8.5%	5.1%	6.4%	6.3%	10.8%	13.3%	11.0%
Total Employment ++	149,000	147,600	147,800	80,200	79,300	78,600	94,700	92,500	90,700
	BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION			CORPUS CHRISTI			DALLAS***		
Total Civilian Labor Force	62,100	61,600	61,200	158,100	157,800	157,000	1,432.8	1,434.1	1,420.0
Total Unemployment	2,000	2,500	2,700	9,300	11,800	12,500	64.2	77.1	71.4
Percent Unemployed	3.2%	4.1%	4.4%	5.9%	7.5%	8.0%	4.5%	5.4%	5.0%
Total Employment ++	60,100	59,100	58,500	148,800	146,000	144,500	1,368.6	1,357.0	1,348.6
	EL PASO			FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON			GALVESTON-TEXAS CITY		
Total Civilian Labor Force	249,200	255,200	242,500	722,900	728,500	704,000	108,200	107,700	108,000
Total Unemployment	23,600	30,800	23,600	32,400	43,500	36,000	7,000	8,400	7,100
Percent Unemployed	9.5%	12.1%	9.7%	4.5%	6.0%	5.1%	6.5%	7.8%	6.6%
Total Employment ++	225,600	224,400	218,900	690,500	685,000	668,000	101,200	99,300	100,900
	HOUSTON***			KILLEEN-TEMPLE			LAREDO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	1,669.9	1,667.5	1,646.1	97,400	97,900	95,000	53,400	54,400	52,000
Total Unemployment	76.5	92.7	90.4	6,300	7,500	6,800	6,100	7,600	6,700
Percent Unemployed	4.6%	5.6%	5.5%	6.5%	7.7%	7.2%	11.4%	14.0%	12.9%
Total Employment ++	1,593.4	1,574.8	1,555.7	91,100	90,400	88,200	47,300	46,800	45,300
	LONGVIEW-MARSHALL			LUBBOCK			MCALLEN-EDINBURG-MISSION		
Total Civilian Labor Force	79,100	79,400	79,300	112,900	113,200	112,100	167,400	178,100	158,800
Total Unemployment	4,900	5,900	6,700	4,400	5,400	5,200	35,800	47,400	26,700
Percent Unemployed	6.2%	7.4%	8.4%	3.9%	4.8%	4.6%	21.4%	26.6%	16.8%
Total Employment ++	74,200	73,500	72,600	108,500	107,800	106,900	131,600	130,700	132,100
	MIDLAND			ODESSA			SAN ANGELO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	48,500	48,600	49,600	51,000	51,400	51,800	44,100	44,000	45,800
Total Unemployment	2,500	3,100	2,700	3,100	3,800	4,100	2,400	2,600	2,400
Percent Unemployed	5.2%	6.4%	5.4%	6.1%	7.4%	7.9%	5.4%	5.9%	5.2%
Total Employment ++	46,000	45,500	46,900	47,900	47,600	47,700	41,700	41,400	43,400
	SAN ANTONIO			SHERMAN-DENISON			TEXARKANA		
Total Civilian Labor Force	603,200	607,100	605,200	46,600	46,800	47,400	57,400	58,300	56,900
Total Unemployment	36,200	43,900	40,700	2,300	2,800	3,500	3,300	3,800	4,100
Percent Unemployed	6.0%	7.2%	6.7%	4.9%	6.0%	7.4%	5.7%	6.5%	7.2%
Total Employment ++	567,000	563,200	564,500	44,300	44,000	43,900	54,100	54,500	52,800
	TYLER			VICTORIA			WACO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	74,400	74,900	75,400	35,600	35,700	35,700	93,100	93,200	92,000
Total Unemployment	3,900	4,900	4,900	1,600	2,100	2,200	4,400	5,400	4,800
Percent Unemployed	5.2%	6.5%	6.5%	4.5%	5.9%	6.2%	4.7%	5.8%	5.2%
Total Employment ++	70,500	70,000	70,500	34,000	33,600	33,500	88,700	87,800	87,200
	WICHITA FALLS						STATE OF TEXAS***		
Total Civilian Labor Force	56,300	56,300	55,500				8,346.5	8,375.4	8,285.8
Total Unemployment	2,900	3,400	3,400				472.5	587.5	530.9
Percent Unemployed	5.2%	6.0%	6.1%				5.7%	7.0%	6.4%
Total Employment ++	53,400	52,900	52,100				7,874.0	7,787.9	7,754.9

✚ All estimates shown are "actual" (not seasonally adjusted). ++ Total employment includes resident wage and salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family workers and domestics in private households, agricultural workers, and workers involved in labor-management disputes.
* Preliminary – subject to revision. ** Revised. *** In Thousands.

created—a sign that the State's economic expansion may be slowing.

Only three major industry groups showed significant increases over the month. Services, Trade and Government each had sizeable gains in March.

The largest of the over-the-month advances occurred in **Services**, which added 11,500 jobs in March. Within this group, Health Services provided the largest number of additional positions, with an increase of 4,200. Over half of this gain was due to the expansion of some full-service medical centers; and the remainder of the growth occurred among doctors, dentists and other health practitioners.

Business and Repair Services was boosted by hiring in preparation for tax preparation. Horticultural and landscaping services expanded, particularly in areas where lawns and shrubs were severely damaged by winter weather. Seasonal hiring for amusement parks also began in March.

Following a seasonal downturn last month, employment in **Wholesale and Retail Trade** increased moderately in March, with an additional 4,500 jobs. Most of this increase, however, was centered in one sector—Eating and Drinking Places. This industry gained positions due in part to warmer weather, especially among firms handling concessions for sports and other special events.

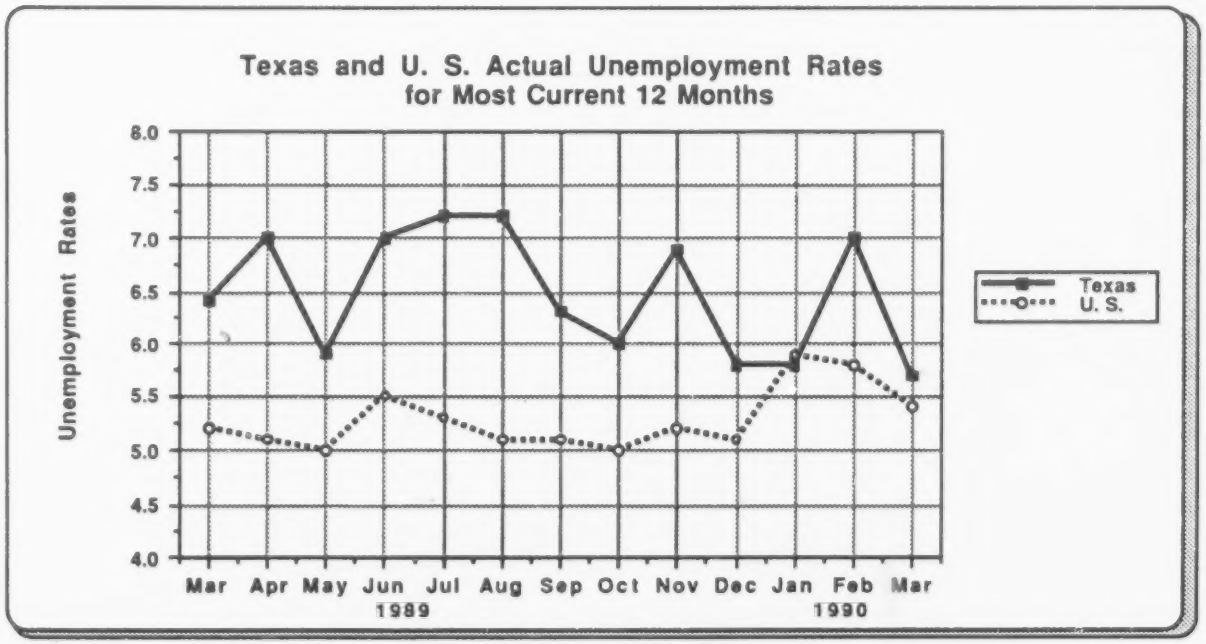
The only other Trade sector which added jobs over the month was Building Materials and Garden Supplies, where spring outdoor activities brought more business. All other Retail industries lost jobs in March, while Wholesale Trade was only able to eke out an increase of 200.

Total **Government** expanded by 1,800 between February and March, due almost exclusively to hiring by Local Government agencies. Federal Government gained only 100 jobs over the month, and State Government actually declined by 100. The increases within Local Government occurred among transit authorities and county governments.

Two other Nonmanufacturing sectors recorded advances in March, although both were minimal. **Transportation and Public Utilities** increased by only 300 jobs, as both Transportation by Air and Electric, Gas and Sanitary Services posted moderate growth. The Communications sector registered a small loss over the month. Employers in **Mining** added only 100 jobs in March, all of them in Oil and Gas Extraction, leaving this industry group up by barely over 1,000 jobs from its year-ago level.

The downturns in Nonmanufacturing were modest, the largest of them a loss of 900 jobs in **Finance, Insurance and Real Estate**. The declines within this group were

[continued on page 7] ☞



TEXAS NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT +

	Mar.'90*	Feb.'90**	Mar.'89**	Chg. from Feb.'90	Chg. from Mar.'89
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	**6,895,800**	**6,880,400**	**6,769,700**	**15,400**	**126,100**
MANUFACTURING	**964,300**	**965,400**	**967,100**	**-1,100**	**-2,800**
Durable Goods	**553,600**	**553,300**	**557,600**	**300**	**-4,000**
Lumber & Wood Products	30,500	30,400	31,100	100	-600
Logging Camps, Sawmills, Planing Mills	6,700	6,800	7,100	-100	-400
Furniture & Fixtures	16,700	16,800	16,100	-100	600
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	36,400	36,400	37,000	0	-600
Concrete, Gypsum & Plaster Prod.	15,500	15,600	16,500	-100	-1,000
Primary Metal Industries	28,600	28,500	29,300	100	-700
Fabricated Metal Industries	77,700	77,700	77,200	0	500
Fabr. Structructural Metal Prod.	37,400	37,400	36,900	0	500
Industrial Machinery & Equipment	106,400	105,900	108,200	500	-1,800
Oil & Gas Field Machinery	23,500	23,200	24,000	300	-500
Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment	104,700	105,200	106,100	-500	-1,400
Transportation Equipment	100,100	100,000	99,800	100	300
Aircraft & Parts	72,300	72,500	71,500	-200	800
Instruments & Related Prod.	37,000	37,100	37,200	-100	-200
Misc. Manufacturing Industries	15,500	15,300	15,600	200	-100
Nondurable Goods	**410,700**	**412,100**	**409,500**	**-1,400**	**1,200**
Food & Kindred Products	95,500	96,200	95,400	-700	100
Meat Products	29,200	29,200	28,800	0	400
Dairy Products	4,200	4,100	4,200	100	0
Bakery Products	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	0
Malt Beverages	3,100	3,100	3,000	0	100
Textile Mill Products	3,400	3,900	3,900	-500	-500
Apparel & Oth. Fin. Textile Prod.	56,100	56,400	56,500	-300	-400
Paper & Allied Products	24,500	24,500	24,500	0	0
Printing & Publishing	72,700	72,500	73,300	200	-600
Newspaper, Periodicals, Books & Misc.	34,600	34,600	35,200	0	-600
Chemicals & Allied Products	81,400	81,600	79,300	-200	2,100
Petroleum & Coal Products	28,800	28,700	28,200	100	600
Petroleum Refining	25,600	25,500	25,100	100	500
Rubber & Misc. Plastics Products	40,700	40,700	40,500	0	200
Leather & Leather Products	7,500	7,500	7,800	0	-300
TOTAL NONMANUFACTURING	**5,931,500**	**5,915,000**	**5,802,600**	**16,500**	**128,900**
Mining	**175,300**	**175,200**	**174,200**	**100**	**1,100**
Metal & Coal & Nonmet. Mnrls., exc. Fuel	9,800	9,800	9,700	0	100
Oil & Gas Extraction	165,500	165,400	164,500	100	1,000
Construction	**313,500**	**314,300**	**312,900**	**-800**	**600**
Transportation & Public Utilities	**408,800**	**408,500**	**396,700**	**300**	**12,100**
Railroad Transportation	19,000	19,000	20,200	0	-1,200
Other Transportation	226,900	226,800	216,500	100	10,400
Transportation by Air	70,800	70,500	66,400	300	4,400
Communications	85,800	85,900	83,600	-100	2,200
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	77,100	76,800	76,400	300	700
Electric Services	40,500	40,400	41,000	100	-500
Gas Production & Distribution	27,600	27,500	27,200	100	400
Wholesale & Retail Trade	**1,684,000**	**1,679,500**	**1,665,200**	**4,500**	**18,800**
Wholesale Trade	426,300	426,100	423,900	200	2,400
Retail Trade	1,257,700	1,253,400	1,241,300	4,300	16,400
Building Materials & Garden Supplies	42,500	41,500	41,500	1,000	1,000
General Merchandise Stores	170,400	170,600	170,900	-200	-500
Food Stores	222,200	222,400	223,800	-200	-1,600
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	135,300	135,500	136,900	-200	-1,600
Apparel & Accessory Stores	83,800	84,100	83,600	-300	200
Eating & Drinking Places	421,900	417,100	404,000	4,800	17,900
Other Retail Trade	181,600	182,200	180,600	-600	1,000
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	**432,200**	**433,100**	**432,100**	**-900**	**100**
Depository Insts., incl. Banks	133,200	133,600	134,700	-400	-1,500
Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers	141,000	141,300	138,400	-300	2,600
Other Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	158,000	158,200	159,000	-200	-1,000
Services	**1,651,300**	**1,639,800**	**1,590,900**	**11,500**	**60,400**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	84,800	84,400	83,800	400	1,000
Personal Services	81,400	80,600	79,000	800	2,400
Business & Repair Services	413,800	411,100	400,000	2,700	13,800
Amusement, including Motion Pictures	74,500	73,700	72,000	800	2,500
Health Services	458,900	454,700	439,600	4,200	19,300
Educational Services	83,800	84,000	84,800	-200	-1,000
Engineering & Mgmt. Services	148,200	148,200	138,700	0	9,500
Other Services & Miscellaneous	305,900	303,100	293,000	2,800	12,900
Total Government	**1,266,400**	**1,264,600**	**1,230,600**	**1,800**	**35,800**
Federal Government	205,900	205,800	202,500	100	3,400
State Government	259,300	259,400	249,100	-100	10,200
Local Government	801,200	799,400	779,000	1,800	22,200

+ Number of nonagricultural jobs in Texas without reference to place of residence of workers. Estimates of TEC in cooperation with Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor.

* Preliminary – subject to revision. ** Revised.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT + TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Industry	MAR.'90*	FEB.'90**	MAR.'89**	MAR.'90*	FEB.'90**	MAR.'89**	MAR.'90*	FEB.'90**	MAR.'89**	MAR.'90*	FEB.'90**	MAR.'89**
	ABILENE			AMARILLO			AUSTIN			BEAUMONT-PORT ARTHUR		
TOTAL	48,900	48,700	48,300	75,400	75,300	76,400	367,800	367,800	361,000	137,300	136,400	134,600
Manufacturing	5,000	5,000	4,800	9,000	9,000	8,800	45,200	45,400	42,700	24,800	24,600	24,800
Mining	1,400	1,400	1,500	1,100	1,100	1,400	600	600	600	1,600	1,600	1,500
Construction	1,400	1,400	1,500	3,100	3,200	3,400	10,700	10,700	11,600	10,300	10,100	10,200
Trans., Comm. & Util.	2,600	2,600	2,500	5,500	5,600	5,500	11,200	11,300	11,000	9,500	9,400	9,400
Trade	13,200	13,100	13,100	21,100	21,000	22,100	77,200	77,500	77,300	32,200	32,100	31,500
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	2,200	2,200	2,300	3,900	4,000	4,200	23,700	23,800	23,400	5,300	5,300	5,100
Services & Misc.	14,200	14,100	13,600	17,300	17,000	16,800	91,900	91,300	88,500	32,400	32,100	31,100
Government	8,900	8,900	9,000	14,400	14,400	14,200	107,300	107,200	105,900	21,200	21,200	21,000
	BRAZORIA			BROWNSVILLE-HARLINGEN			BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION			CORPUS CHRISTI		
TOTAL	63,700	63,300	61,600	76,200	75,400	72,800	54,000	53,500	51,900	129,500	129,200	126,800
Manufacturing	16,200	16,100	15,800	11,000	11,000	10,400	3,700	3,700	3,400	11,700	11,600	11,700
Mining	2,000	2,000	2,100	—	—	—	500	500	500	3,500	3,500	3,700
Construction	8,600	8,500	8,200	2,100	2,100	2,000	1,600	1,400	1,700	10,600	10,500	8,100
Trans., Comm. & Util.	2,600	2,500	2,500	3,100	3,100	3,000	1,400	1,400	1,300	6,700	6,700	6,800
Trade	11,600	11,600	11,200	20,600	20,400	19,600	11,500	11,500	11,500	31,900	31,800	31,800
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,800	1,800	1,800	3,800	3,800	3,700	1,800	1,800	1,700	6,400	6,300	6,400
Services & Misc.	9,100	9,000	8,600	18,100	17,300	16,900	9,100	9,000	9,000	30,300	30,400	29,900
Government	11,800	11,800	11,400	17,500	17,700	17,200	24,400	24,200	22,800	28,400	28,400	28,400
	DALLAS ***			EL PASO			FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON			GALVESTON-TEXAS CITY		
TOTAL	1,355.0	1,353.4	1,337.3	206,600	207,000	198,900	572,100	571,600	554,200	74,500	73,700	74,100
Manufacturing	221.0	222.1	223.2	40,000	40,300	40,300	121,000	120,500	118,600	8,900	8,900	8,700
Mining	17.2	17.1	17.7	—	—	—	4,000	4,000	3,700	500	600	500
Construction	43.5	43.9	46.7	8,300	8,300	7,800	20,700	21,200	20,300	6,700	6,300	6,100
Trans., Comm. & Util.	79.7	79.6	76.2	10,400	10,300	10,700	54,200	54,200	51,000	4,900	4,700	5,000
Trade	353.3	351.7	342.5	51,900	52,000	49,300	144,000	143,800	141,500	13,800	13,600	13,700
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	129.9	130.5	129.0	8,300	8,500	8,600	27,600	27,600	27,700	4,400	4,400	4,600
Services & Misc.	348.5	347.2	344.4	42,400	42,000	40,000	126,200	125,800	120,800	13,500	13,400	13,500
Government	161.8	161.3	157.8	45,300	45,600	42,200	74,400	74,500	70,600	21,800	21,800	22,000
	HOUSTON ***			KILLEEN-TEMPLE			LAREDO			LONGVIEW-MARSHALL		
TOTAL	1,533.3	1,526.1	1,483.0	73,800	73,600	71,700	43,600	43,500	41,500	68,700	68,600	66,500
Manufacturing	163.2	163.0	161.1	8,700	8,600	8,500	1,800	1,800	1,700	16,300	16,500	15,900
Mining	67.6	67.5	65.6	—	—	—	1,600	1,600	1,600	3,400	3,400	3,300
Construction	98.2	98.3	92.1	3,000	3,100	3,400	1,200	1,200	1,200	3,500	3,500	3,000
Trans., Comm. & Util.	106.3	106.5	103.9	2,600	2,700	2,600	6,200	6,100	5,500	3,400	3,500	3,300
Trade	366.7	364.0	361.5	16,400	16,200	16,300	13,900	13,900	13,300	17,000	16,800	16,800
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	101.7	101.3	100.7	3,200	3,200	2,900	1,900	1,900	1,700	2,700	2,700	2,800
Services & Misc.	425.8	421.8	402.6	17,300	17,300	16,600	7,300	7,300	6,800	13,700	13,500	12,600
Government	203.8	203.7	196.5	22,600	22,500	21,400	9,700	9,700	9,700	8,700	8,700	8,800
	LUBBOCK			MCALLEN-EDINBURG-MISSION			MIDLAND			ODESSA		
TOTAL	95,700	95,700	93,700	98,600	98,000	99,200	44,600	44,800	44,700	42,500	42,600	42,400
Manufacturing	7,300	7,400	7,100	12,200	12,500	13,300	2,300	2,600	2,300	4,100	4,100	4,000
Mining	300	300	300	900	900	900	8,500	8,500	9,000	5,100	5,100	5,000
Construction	2,900	2,800	3,100	4,400	4,200	4,200	1,300	1,400	1,300	2,000	2,000	2,000
Trans., Comm. & Util.	5,700	5,700	4,900	3,000	3,000	3,000	2,300	2,300	2,300	1,800	1,900	1,900
Trade	27,000	27,300	27,000	30,800	30,700	31,800	10,900	10,900	10,800	12,500	12,400	12,500
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	5,400	5,400	5,200	4,300	4,300	4,000	2,400	2,400	2,400	1,500	1,600	1,600
Services & Misc.	23,800	23,600	23,700	16,700	16,300	16,200	9,600	9,400	9,800	7,500	7,500	7,600
Government	23,300	23,200	22,400	26,300	26,100	25,800	7,300	7,300	7,000	8,000	8,000	7,800
	SAN ANGELO			SAN ANTONIO			SHERMAN-DENISON			TEXARKANA		
TOTAL	36,200	35,900	37,200	513,800	512,700	512,300	36,700	37,100	36,800	47,100	46,800	45,600
Manufacturing	5,100	5,000	5,500	47,500	47,700	48,200	10,800	10,900	10,800	7,100	7,100	7,200
Mining	600	600	500	2,200	2,200	2,100	—	—	—	100	100	100
Construction	1,100	1,100	1,300	20,200	20,800	21,900	1,700	1,800	1,800	1,400	1,400	1,500
Trans., Comm. & Util.	2,600	2,600	3,000	19,600	19,500	19,500	1,400	1,400	1,700	2,400	2,400	2,200
Trade	8,800	8,800	9,100	128,700	128,000	129,200	7,900	8,000	7,800	10,700	10,500	10,400
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,600	1,600	1,700	41,300	41,200	40,500	1,900	1,900	1,900	1,800	1,800	1,900
Services & Misc.	8,800	8,700	8,900	133,000	131,600	130,700	8,700	8,700	8,500	10,700	10,700	9,800
Government	7,800	7,500	7,200	121,300	121,700	120,200	4,300	4,400	4,500	12,900	12,800	12,500
	TYLER			VICTORIA			WACO			WICHITA FALLS		
TOTAL	62,100	62,100	61,200	27,900	27,800	27,400	82,000	82,200	80,100	50,800	50,800	49,500
Manufacturing	10,900	10,900	11,000	3,100	3,000	3,300	16,200	16,100	15,100	8,300	8,500	8,100
Mining	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,300	1,300	1,300	—	—	—	1,400	1,400	1,500
Construction	1,6[illegible]	1,600	1,600	1,700	1,700	1,400	2,800	2,900	3,000	1,600	1,500	1,600
Trans., Comm. & Util.	2[illegible]	2,800	2,500	1,200	1,200	1,300	3,500	3,500	3,400	2,600	2,600	2,500
Trade	16,[illegible]	16,300	16,100	7,600	7,500	7,500	18,300	18,400	18,300	11,900	11,800	11,300
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	3,500	3,500	3,300	1,500	1,500	1,500	5,100	5,200	5,000	2,400	2,400	2,300
Services & Misc.	15,200	15,200	14,700	5,800	5,800	6,000	22,900	22,900	22,000	12,700	12,700	12,500
Government	10,100	10,100	10,300	5,700	5,800	5,100	13,200	13,200	13,300	9,900	9,900	9,700

+ Estimates prepared by TEC in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor.
* Preliminary — subject to revision. ** Revised. *** In Thousands.

HOURS AND EARNINGS IN TEXAS ✣

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	MAR.'90*	FEB.'90	MAR.'89	MAR.'90*	FEB.'90	MAR.'89	MAR.'90*	FEB.'90	MAR.'89
FOR TEXAS									
MANUFACTURING TOTAL	$ 431.39	$ 428.90	$ 427.20	41.4	41.4	41.8	$ 10.42	$10.36	$10.22
Durable Goods	428.48	430.34	426.72	41.6	41.7	42.0	10.30	10.32	10.16
Lumber & Wood Products	298.80	299.21	300.46	41.5	41.1	42.2	7.20	7.28	7.12
Furniture & Fixtures	285.20	287.03	270.27	40.0	40.2	40.1	7.13	7.14	6.74
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	400.48	404.34	400.48	41.5	41.9	42.2	9.65	9.65	9.49
Primary Metal Industries	474.14	478.13	442.90	42.6	42.5	41.2	11.13	11.25	10.75
Fabricated Metal Products	394.15	395.17	385.71	42.2	42.4	43.0	9.34	9.32	8.97
Machinery, exc. Electric	420.51	423.85	423.30	41.8	41.8	42.5	10.06	10.14	9.96
Oil Field Machinery	506.27	514.65	504.23	44.1	44.1	44.9	11.48	11.67	11.23
Electric & Electronic Equip.	491.36	497.28	491.71	41.5	42.0	41.6	11.84	11.84	11.82
Transportation Equipment	549.88	548.42	576.79	41.5	41.8	43.4	13.25	13.12	13.29
Instruments & Related Prod.	409.34	405.00	370.16	41.6	41.2	38.2	9.84	9.83	9.69
Misc. Manufacturing Inds.	288.80	285.01	279.96	38.1	37.8	39.1	7.58	7.54	7.16
Nondurable Goods	435.72	428.26	426.01	41.3	41.1	41.4	10.55	10.42	10.29
Food & Kindred Products	351.85	347.65	344.79	41.2	40.9	40.9	8.54	8.50	8.43
Meat Products	271.58	265.06	250.10	41.4	40.1	39.2	6.56	6.61	6.38
Malt Beverages	893.02	810.09	952.43	47.3	43.6	50.5	18.88	18.58	18.86
Textile Mill Products	324.19	328.10	328.10	42.6	42.5	44.1	7.61	7.72	7.44
Apparel & Other Text. Prods.	210.48	209.12	205.67	38.2	38.3	38.3	5.51	5.46	5.37
Paper & Allied Products	495.79	489.06	489.19	43.0	42.9	43.1	11.53	11.40	11.35
Printing & Publishing	411.68	412.50	412.23	40.4	40.6	40.1	10.19	10.16	10.28
Chemicals & Allied Products	699.61	681.25	701.45	43.4	42.9	44.2	16.12	15.88	15.87
Petroleum & Coal Products	759.68	739.35	702.84	45.3	45.0	43.9	16.77	16.43	16.01
Petroleum Refining	796.09	769.86	733.13	45.7	45.1	43.9	17.42	17.07	16.70
Rubber & Misc. Plastic Products	373.01	365.52	365.05	40.5	40.3	42.3	9.21	9.07	8.63
Leather & Leather Products	249.01	248.82	228.90	39.4	39.0	38.6	6.32	6.38	5.93
NONMANUFACTURING									
Mining	555.03	566.53	510.32	41.7	42.5	39.9	13.31	13.33	12.79
Met/Coal/Nonmet Mnrls. exc. Fuel	547.98	543.37	529.55	45.4	45.7	44.5	12.07	11.89	11.90
Oil & Gas Extraction	555.17	567.17	509.26	41.4	42.2	39.6	13.41	13.44	12.86
Communications	515.60	507.76	496.18	40.0	39.7	39.1	12.89	12.79	12.69
Elec., Gas & San. Services	532.97	519.17	490.44	41.9	41.5	40.2	12.72	12.51	12.20
Wholesale & Retail Trade	237.33	237.49	235.22	32.6	32.4	32.4	7.28	7.33	7.26
Wholesale Trade	410.67	416.58	405.86	39.0	39.3	39.1	10.53	10.60	10.38
Retail Trade	183.91	182.11	182.10	30.6	30.2	30.3	6.01	6.03	6.01
General Merchandise Stores	181.04	177.94	174.32	29.2	28.7	29.2	6.20	6.20	5.97
Depository Inst. inc. Banks	281.57	284.56	278.25	37.0	37.1	37.1	7.61	7.67	7.50

HOURS AND EARNINGS FOR SELECTED TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

DALLAS									
Manufacturing	$ 441.84	$ 446.90	$ 441.15	42.0	42.4	42.5	$ 10.52	$ 10.54	$ 10.38
Durable Goods	469.84	479.52	479.88	42.1	42.7	43.0	11.16	11.23	11.16
Nondurable Goods	394.17	391.77	374.40	41.8	41.9	41.6	9.43	9.35	9.00
FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON									
Manufacturing	461.73	459.91	448.13	41.3	41.1	41.0	11.18	11.19	10.93
Durable Goods	489.81	483.21	470.68	41.9	41.3	41.0	11.69	11.70	11.48
Nondurable Goods	401.00	405.41	397.29	40.1	40.5	41.0	10.00	10.01	9.69
HOUSTON									
Manufacturing	524.61	523.53	523.60	43.5	43.7	44.6	12.06	11.98	11.74
Durable Goods	444.26	448.07	441.37	43.3	43.8	44.9	10.26	10.23	9.83
Nondurable Goods	624.47	619.56	628.62	43.7	43.6	44.3	14.29	14.21	14.19
SAN ANTONIO									
Manufacturing	313.24	311.67	302.91	41.0	41.5	39.7	7.64	7.51	7.63
Durable Goods	352.31	334.94	336.60	41.4	40.5	39.6	8.51	8.27	8.50
Nondurable Goods	278.11	289.75	268.77	40.6	42.3	39.7	6.85	6.85	6.77

✣Figures for Texas and selected areas cover Production Workers in Manufacturing and Mining Industries only and Nonsupervisory Employees in other industry divisions. Earnings' averages include premium pay for overtime, holidays, and for late-shift work. *Preliminary — subject to revision upon receipt of additional reports.

scattered throughout the group, with small drops in Banking, among Insurance Carriers, Agents and Brokers, and in Other Finance, Insurance and Real Estate. The decrease for this group totaled 900 in March. Another 800 jobs were deleted in **Construction** over the month, leaving that industry group up by only 600 from its March 1989 level.

Following a sizeable upturn in February, the number of jobs in **Manufacturing** declined once more in March, dropping by 1,100. Total Manufacturing is now close to 3,000 below its year-ago level, due primarily to losses in the Durable Goods sector.

Although **Durable Goods** has declined by 4,000 jobs over the year, it did manage a minimal increase of 300 positions between February and March. That gain was the result of small, interspersed upturns and declines among industries in this sector. The largest growth occurred in Industrial Machinery and Equipment, where Oil and Gas Field Machinery helped push employment up by 500. Lumber and Wood Products, as well as Transportation Equipment, recorded smaller gains.

Partially offsetting these increases in Durable Goods was a loss of 500 jobs in Electronic and Other Electrical Equipment. Smaller decreases were registered in Furniture and Fixtures and in Instruments and Related Products.

Nondurable Goods was primarily responsible for the over-the-month decline in Manufacturing, losing 1,400 jobs in March. The largest of the losses were in Food and Kindred Products, which dropped by 700, and in Textile Mill Products, where 500 jobs were cut. Apparel and Other Finished Textile Products and Chemicals and Allied Products also recorded declines. The largest increase in this sector was the gain of 200 jobs in Printing and Publishing.

TEXAS LABOR MARKET REVIEW
Official Publication of
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Economic Research and Analysis Department

Average Hourly Earnings Rise

While Average Weekly Hours worked by the estimated 628,900 Texas Manufacturing Production Workers remained unchanged between February and March, Average Hourly Earnings rose by six cents over the month. In mid-March, an average production worker was earning $10.42 an hour for a 41.4-hour week, and averaging $431.39 per week.

Compared to a year ago, Average Weekly Hours worked were down 0.4 hour, and Average Hourly Earnings had risen by 20 cents, pushing Average Weekly Earnings up by $4.19.

TEC ACTIVITIES

	MAR.'90	MAR.'89
Total Population	17,093,600*	16,939,500*
% UI Covered Unemployment	1.9	1.9
UI Covered Employers	313,456	311,159
Total Claims Actions	644,674	651,545
Total Initial Claims Actions	68,321	61,868
Total Cont'd. Claims Actions	576,353	589,677
Total Placements	32,506	31,792
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amount	$151.96	$154.34
Total Amount Paid (Net)**	$75,952,399	$70,127,671

*Revised.
**Regular State UI benefits.

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